

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 125639

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MARR, PLOS, US, BF

SUBJECT: EXPANSION OF ACOUSTICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM OFF
ELEUTHERA

REF: (A) NASSAU 636; (B) NASSAU 665; (C) STATE 249112

1. IN REPLY REF A, PROJECT IS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE.
PRESENT PLANS ARE TO INSTALL REQUIRED EQUIPMENT IN LATE
JULY OR AUGUST 1975. IF GCOB PERMISSION IS NOT RECEIVED
BY END OF JULY, PROJECT COULD BE DELAYED AS MUCH AS A
YEAR SINCE CALM SEAS ARE REQUIRED FOR INSTALLATION, AND
SUMMER MONTHS PROVIDE HIGHEST PROBABILITY OF SATISFACTORY
CONDITIONS.

2. IN RESPONSE REF B, ELECTRODES AND RECEIVERS WILL BE
LOCATED IN VICINITY OF BUOYS; HOWEVER, RECENT STUDIES
INDICATE LOCATIONS OF BUOYS REFTEL C ARE NOT OPTIMUM.
NAVY NOW ADVISES THAT BEST UTILIZATION DICTATES NORTHERN-
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MOST BUOY BE LOCATED ON RADIAL OF 002 AT 15 TO 20 MILES

FROM SOUND SOURCE AND EASTERN BUOY ON A RADIAL OF 055 AT SAME DISTANCE. UNFORTUNATELY, INITIAL BOTTOM BATHYMETRY HAS INDICATED THERE MAY BE NO SUITABLE LOCATION ON THESE RADIALS AND FINAL LOCATION MAY HAVE TO BE SHIFTED CLOCKWISE BACK TOWARD ORIGINAL PROPOSED LOCATIONS WITH APPROPRIATE MODIFICATION IN PROJECT. ANY MOVEMENT OF

BUOYS WOULD NATURALLY OCCASION A CORRESPONDING MOVEMENT OF CABLE RADIALS. REEVALUATION OF BATHYMETRY STUDIES IS UNDERWAY AND FINAL LOCATION OF OUTER BUOYS, WHICH WILL DEPEND ON RESULTS OF THESE STUDIES, IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE ABOUT 30 MAY 1975. IN ANY CASE, OUTER BUOYS WILL BE MORE THAN 12 MILES FROM COAST OF ELEUTHERA.

3. LOCATION OF INBOARD BUOY IS FIRM. IT WILL BE AT 25 DEGREES 19' 45"N, 76 DEGREES 14' 55"W. THIS LOCATION IS APPROXIMATELY 1.6 MILES WNW OF REF C LOCATION BUT STILL 4.5 MILES FROM ELEUTHERA.

4. WHILE NOTIFICATION TO GCOB NOT REQUIRED FOR ACTIVITIES BEYOND TERRITORIAL SEA, WE WILL PROVIDE EXACT LOCATION OF OUTER BUOYS WHEN DETERMINED, WHICH MAY BE PASSED TO GCOB. EMBASSY MAY ALSO, AS APPROPRIATE, INFORM GCOB THAT CHANGE IN BUOYS WILL ALSO NECESSITATE CORRESPONDING CHANGE IN CABLE RADIALS. INGERSOLL

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